

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following is a revised listing of the claims with status identifiers in parentheses and marked with underlines to indicate insertions, and strikethroughs to indicate deletions.

What is claimed is:

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Cancelled)
5. (Previously cancelled)
6. (Previously cancelled)
7. (Previously cancelled)
8. (Previously cancelled)
9. (Cancelled)
10. (Cancelled)
11. (Cancelled)
12. (Cancelled)
13. (Cancelled)
14. (Currently Amended) A discharge lamp comprising:

a luminous bulb in which a luminous material is enclosed and a pair of electrodes are disposed in the luminous bulb; and

the pair of electrodes, respectively, each of the pair of sealing portions including a shrink seal

structure and each of the pair of metal foils including an external lead on a side opposite to a side electrically connected to a corresponding electrode of the pair of electrodes;

wherein at least one of the pair of sealing portions is provided with at least one constricted portion which is formed in an area between an end of the electrode and an end of the external lead, and whose length in a direction substantially perpendicular to the surface of the metal foil in the sealing portion is smaller than that of other portions in the sealing portion, ~~and~~ wherein

~~at least one of the constricted portions is formed in an area between an end of the electrode and an end of the external lead of at least one of the sealing portions.~~

15. **(Previously Added)** The discharge lamp of claim 14, wherein the length of at least one of the constricted portions in the direction substantially perpendicular to the surface of the metal foil in the sealing portion is 70 to 90% of the length of the other portions without the constricted portion.

16. **(Previously Added)** The discharge lamp of claim 14, wherein one of the other portions is the sealing portion wherein the electrode is disposed.

17. **(Previously Added)** The discharge lamp of claim 15, wherein one of the other portions is the sealing portion where the electrode is disposed.

18. **(Previously Added)** The discharge lamp of claim 14, wherein at least one of the constricted portions is provided in a portion relatively nearer to the luminous bulb side, rather than a center of the sealing portion.

19. **(Previously Added)** The discharge lamp of claim 14, wherein a plurality of

20. **(Previously Added)** The discharge lamp of claim 14, wherein ends of the pair of sealing portions on a side opposite to the luminous bulb side are tapered.

21. **(Previously Added)** The discharge lamp of claim 14, wherein each of the pair of metal foils is attached tightly to a glass portion extended from the luminous bulb, and wherein each of the pair of metal foils is a molybdenum foil.

22. **(Previously Added)** The discharge lamp of claim 14, wherein the luminous material comprises at least mercury.

23. **(New)** The discharge lamp of claim 14, wherein a thickness of a glass portion from a side face of the metal foil to the surface of the constricted portion is at least 2mm.

24. **(New)** The discharge lamp of claim 14, wherein cross-sectional shapes of the sealing portion and the constricted portion are circular, and an outer diameter of the constricted portion is smaller than that of the other portions.

25. **(New)** A lamp unit comprising the discharge lamp of claim 14, and a reflecting mirror for reflecting light emitted from the discharge lamp.

26. **(New)** The discharge lamp of claim 14, wherein the at least one constricted portion is only formed in an area between an end of the electrode and an end of the external lead.